

# Women of Gay Court Life Plunged into Mourning

**How the War Has Robbed Queens, Duchesses and Princesses of Husbands, Brothers and Children, While Others Are Nursing Wounded and Crippled Men of Their Families**

the charming Miss Mildred Carter, daughter of J. Ridgely Carter, of Maryland.

Lady Constance Stewart Richardson, whose graceful figure and dances have been widely admired in the United States, is a sufferer by the war. Her husband, Sir Edward Stewart Richardson, a captain in the Black Watch Regiment of Highlanders, has been wounded.

Lady Constance is noted for the courage with which she has bared her feet and limbs to the public. She believes that it is a crime for a woman to distort her body with corsets, tight shoes and other unhealthy clothes. Her interpretative Greek and other dances, which she performs with bare feet, have given much pleasure. Her feet are as perfect as the famous Trilby's.

Lady Constance is a granddaughter of a former Duke of Sutherland. This important noble family has lost several members. Lieutenant David Bingham, of the Coldstream Guards, a grandson of the Earl of Lucan, was killed in action. He was married just before the war to a niece of the Duchess of Sutherland. This young officer was a stepson of Mrs. Cecil Bingham, formerly Mrs. S. S. Chauncey, the noted American beauty.

A strikingly tragic death was that of the Hon. F. G. Pearson, youngest son of Lord Cowdray, one of the richest men in England, and a central figure in the recent disturbances in Mexico. Young Pearson was only twenty years old, and leaves a bride of nineteen years.

Captain Allan Cameron, brother of Cameron of Lochiel, whose position means as much to Scotchmen as a dukedom, is among the killed.

The Scotch Duke of Atholl has two sons wounded. Major Lord George Murray and Captain Lord James Murray.

Among the many British noblemen killed have been Captain Lord Guernsey, of the Irish Guards, the Earl of Loven and Melville, of the Scots Greys, the Earl of Nairne and Captain Lord Arthur Hay, son of the Marquis of Tweeddale.

The picturesque Duke of Westminster, patron of sport and connoisseur of beauty, has been in the thick of the fighting. His half-brother, Lieutenant Percy Wyndham, who was serving with him in the same regiment, was killed.

It is remarkable to find how deeply American women are concerned in this war. Winston Churchill, head of the British Admiralty, is the son of an American woman, the former Jennie Jerome, of New York. Admiral Beatty, who commands one of the British squadrons in the North Sea, is married to an American woman, daughter of the late Marshall Field, of Chicago.

General Sir John Maxwell, who commands the British troops in Egypt, which have just been attacked by the Turks, has an American wife, formerly Miss Virginia Bonynge.

A host of titled husbands of American women are now fighting at the front. Lord Decies, who married Miss Vivien Gould, had a distinguished career in the army before his marriage, and has gone on active service again. The Earl of Granard, son-in-law of Ogden Mills, has become colonel of an Irish regiment.

Lord Ashburton, who married the American Gaiety girl, Frances Donnelly, has gone as a captain in the Hampshire Carabiniers.

Lord Chesham, who married Miss Elizabeth French, of New York, Lord Craven, son-in-law of Bradley Martin, the Earl of Suffolk, Daisy Leiter's husband, the Earl of Ancaster, who married Miss Eloise Breese, of New York, and the Hon. John Ward, brother of the Earl of Dudley, and husband of Whiteley Reid's daughter, are all serving in the army.

The American Duchess of Marlborough is directing in London the Committee of Mercy, the most efficient organization for the relief of sufferers from the war. Her husband is serving at the front.

Mrs. Lewis Harcourt, who is a niece of the late Pierpont Morgan, and wife of a British Cabinet Minister, is a prominent member of Queen Mary's Needlework Guild, which is turning out socks and bandages for the soldiers.

Owing to the great prominence of American women in English society, they are suffering from the war almost as much as English women.

For a long time there will be none of the brilliant entertainments which American girls love so much, but they will do their work in helping the sufferers with as much energy as they formerly put into amusing themselves.

The Russian court and aristocracy have suffered at least as much as the English. Prince Oleg, the young nephew of the Grand Duke Nicholas, the Russian commander-in-chief, was killed early in the war. The Prince was, of course, a cousin of the Czar.

Prince Cantacuzene, a Russian cavalry officer, who is a great favorite at the Czar's Court, has come back from the



**Princess Cantacuzene, Granddaughter of General U. S. Grant, Whose Husband, a Colonel of Russian Cavalry and Aide-de-Camp to the Czar, Was Seriously Wounded**



**Lady Constance Richardson, the interesting barefoot dancer, whose husband, Sir Edward Stewart Richardson, is wounded.**



**Viscountess Acheson, daughter of Ridgely Carter, of Maryland, who is nursing her wounded husband, Lord Acheson.**



**The Duchess of Roxburghe, formerly Miss Goelet, of New York, whose husband has been wounded.**



**Queen Victoria of Spain, whose favorite brother, Prince Maurice of Battenberg, has been killed with the British Army.**

front seriously wounded. He married Miss Julia Dent Grant, a granddaughter of our American General Grant.

The French aristocracy have lost even more than the English, because so many more of their countrymen are concerned, but we cannot say that their court has been plunged into mourning, for they have none. Many of the French noblemen killed were well known at the other courts, and related to the foreign nobility.

The young Comte de Breteuil, who was chosen as a companion of the Prince of Wales during his stay in Paris, was one of the earliest victims of the war.

Practically every French nobleman who could carry a gun has gone into the army, without troubling whether he could become an officer or was legally required to go.

The Duc de la Rochefoucauld, who is fifty-three years old, and head of one of the most historic families in France, is serving as a common soldier. He married an American wife.

The Duc de Talleyrand, Anna Gould's second husband, has been working as an ordinary chauffeur, running between Paris and the front with dispatches. That was the only military employment he could obtain. He is well advanced in middle life. He was known in his youth as a "scorcher."

It is perhaps a cheering thought that as a result of the many deaths in the European aristocracy, there will within a few years be an unusually large crop of young noble men looking for American brides. Many of the titles of those killed will pass to boys too young at present to take part in the war.

## Keeping Down Fever by Keeping Ducks

MALARIA and yellow fever are both spread by mosquitoes. The only problem before humanity in getting rid of the two fevers is to get rid of the insects that carry the fever germs. Dr. Samuel G. Dixon, State Health Commissioner of Pennsylvania, writing for the Journal of the American Medical Association, advocates keeping ducks to keep down the two diseases.

It used to be thought, and it is still a common delusion, that malaria especially was "caught" by inhaling bad air. It has been proven beyond doubt that the only way the germ either of it or yellow fever can be communicated is through the bite of the mosquito. When the mosquito takes up the fever germs in marshes and low-lying places, the germ itself has no effect upon the insect, but when it inserts its cutting and sucking apparatus into man, the bacilli makes their way into the human blood in practically the same way as though injected by a hypodermic needle.

Dr. Dixon points out that the duck has the widest geographical range of any bird. It is an omnivorous eater of the mosquito's young. Besides its appetite its movement through the water creates water motions which drown the mosquito young which, just before they hatch into the full fledged pests, turn from wrigglers into pupae, which are air breathers. These pupae float upon the surface of the water during the brief period of metamorphosis into the winged insect. They need to breathe, and a medium which submerges them, drowns them.

Describing his experiments on ducks as mosquito destroyers, Dr. Dixon says:

Each covered nearly 1,400 square feet. In one, twenty mallard ducks were permitted to feed, while the other was entirely protected from water fowl, but well stocked with gold fish.

"The pool in which the ducks fed was for several months entirely free from mosquitoes, while the pond protected from ducks and stocked with fish was swarming with young insects in different cycles of life.

"In the infested pond—the one that had been stocked with gold fish—ten well-fed mallard ducks were then admitted, and as they entered the pond they were first attracted by the tadpoles. They, however, soon recognized the presence of the young of the mosquito, both in the wriggler and larva stage, and immediately turned their attention to these, ravenously devouring them in preference to any other foodstuff present. At the end of twenty-four hours no pupae survived. The motion of the water, made by the ducks, of course drowned some of the insects—what proportion cannot be estimated.

"For some years I have been using ducks to keep down mosquitoes in swamps that would have been very expensive to drain, but I never fully appreciated the high degree of efficiency of the duck as a destroyer of mosquito life until the foregoing test was made.

"Mr. William Lockwood, of Boston, an artist who made a hobby of raising aquatic fowl, also expresses an opinion that the spoon-billed duck is particularly adapted to the destruction of mosquito larvae resting on the surface.

"Ducks can be used in ponds, swamps, both open and in jungles, and can be driven from place to place. Not only can they be generally used to keep down mosquito life, but they also furnish a delicious and valuable foodstuff."